

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A jointing member comprising:

a grommet; and

a pin,

wherein the grommet comprises:

a flange portion; and

a leg portion capable of being opened, in which an insertion hole is formed from a center of the flange portion to an inner portion of the leg portion; and

an engagement portion formed at an inner surface of the leg portion, and

wherein the pin comprises:

a head portion; and

a shaft portion to be inserted into the insertion hole, in which an engagement surface and a lock surface each engaging with the engagement portion are formed at the shaft portion, and

wherein a distance from the flange portion of said grommet to a tip end of said leg portion of said grommet is greater than a distance from said head portion of said pin to a tip end of said shaft portion of said pin.

2. (Currently Amended) The jointing member according to claim 1, wherein in a state where the engagement portion formed at on the leg portion of the grommet engages with the engagement surface formed at the shaft portion of the pin, the pin is movable in a drawing out direction within the insertion hole of the grommet.

3. (Currently Amended) The jointing member according to claim 1, wherein the engagement portion formed at on the leg portion of the grommet engages with the lock surface formed at on ~~the leg portion~~ of the shaft portion as the engagement portion moves along the lock surface while maintaining an opened state of the leg portion of the grommet.
4. (Currently Amended) The jointing member according to claim 2, wherein the engagement portion formed at on the leg portion of the grommet engages with the lock surface formed at on ~~the leg portion~~ of the shaft portion as the engagement portion moves along the lock surface while maintaining an opened state of the leg portion of the grommet.
5. (Currently Amended) The jointing member according to claim 1, wherein in a state where the engagement portion formed at on the leg portion of the grommet engages with the engagement surface formed at on the shaft portion of the pin, a tip end of the shaft portion of the pin is buried within the insertion hole of the grommet.
6. (Currently Amended) The jointing member according to claim 2, wherein in a state where the engagement portion formed at on the leg portion of the grommet engages with the engagement surface formed at on the shaft portion of the pin, a tip end of the shaft portion of the pin is buried within the insertion hole of the grommet.
7. (Currently Amended) The jointing member according to claim 3, wherein in a state where the engagement portion formed at on the leg portion of the grommet engages with the engagement surface formed at on the shaft portion of the pin, a tip end of the shaft portion of the

pin is buried within the insertion hole of the grommet.

8. (Currently Amended) The jointing member according to claim 4, wherein in a state where the engagement portion formed at on the leg portion of the grommet engages with the engagement surface formed at on the shaft portion of the pin, a tip end of the shaft portion of the pin is buried within the insertion hole of the grommet.

9. (Currently Amended) A jointing member comprising:

a grommet; and

a pin,

wherein the grommet comprises:

a flange portion; and

a leg portion capable of being opened, in which an insertion hole is formed from a center of the flange portion to an inner portion of the leg portion; [[,]] and

an engagement portion formed at on an inner surface of the leg portion,

wherein the pin comprises:

a head portion; and

a shaft portion to be inserted into the insertion hole, in which an engagement surface and a lock surface each engaging with the engagement portion are formed at on the shaft portion,

wherein the flange portion of the grommet comprises:

a large-diameter portion of the insertion hole;

an engagement hole in a position where a bottom portion of the large-diameter

portion is adjacent; and

an extending portion which is extended to form a pin hole portion whose diameter is smaller than that of the large-diameter portion in a free state on a side of a tip ~~where~~ that is far from the flange portion,

wherein ~~the shaft portion comprises: an~~ said engagement surface which holds the engagement portion displaced to a ~~eircumference~~ circumferential direction to keep the flange portion of the grommet in an opened state, in a state that the pin is incorporated into the grommet, in parallel with a center line of the shaft portion and in a direction of the center line of the shaft portion for a predetermined length, and includes a lock surface which protrudes in a ~~eircumference~~ circumferential direction in a tip of the shaft portion so as to prevent the engagement portion from falling away from the engagement surface to shift to a state that a diameter of the leg portion becomes small, ~~and~~

wherein the engagement portion of the grommet, and the engagement surface of the pin and lock surface are relatively provided in a shaft direction at a position where the grommet and the pin are enabled to slide for a predetermined distance in a state that the grommet and the pin are incorporated to have the leg portion opened, and

wherein a distance from the flange portion of said grommet to a tip end of said leg portion of said grommet is greater than a distance from said head portion of said pin to a tip end of said shaft portion of said pin.

10. (Previously Presented) The jointing member according to claim 9, wherein the tip of the shaft portion of the pin, which is provided with the lock surface, is surrounded with the extending portion of each of the leg portions of the grommet in a state that the grommet and the

pin are incorporated to have the leg portions opened, and is inside the tip hole portion of the grommet.

11. (Previously Presented) The jointing member according to claim 9, wherein the predetermined distance that the grommet and the pin are enabled to slide comprises 0.5 mm to 2 mm.
12. (Previously Presented) The jointing member according to claim 1, wherein said engagement portion comprises a protruding portion extending from the inner surface of said leg portion.
13. (Previously Presented) The jointing member according to claim 1, further comprising: a plurality of slits extending along said leg portion of said grommet to divide said leg portion into a plurality of leg portion pieces.
14. (Previously Presented) The jointing member according to claim 1, wherein said engagement portion is formed on an inner surface of an expanded tip end side of said leg portion.
15. (Previously Presented) The jointing member according to claim 1, further comprising:
at least one tool insertion groove extending in a radial direction and being formed on an upper surface of said flange portion.
16. (Previously Presented) The jointing member according to claim 15, wherein said at least

one tool insertion groove comprises a plurality of tool insertion grooves.

17. (Currently Amended) The jointing member according to claim 13, further comprising:
a projection, for provisional engagement with a portion of a rib wall, being formed on
said slits at an edge of said insertion hole ~~on each of said slits~~ on a side of said slits adjacent to
said flange portion.

18. (Previously Presented) The jointing member according to claim 17, further
comprising:

a plurality of rib walls for engaging said plurality of slits formed on an outer
periphery of said shaft portion.

19. (Previously Presented) The jointing member according to claim 18, wherein at least one
of said plurality of rib walls comprises:

a bent arm portion formed along said plurality of rib walls.

20. (Previously Presented) The jointing member according to claim 18, further comprising:
a rib wall engagement projection formed along each of said plurality of rib walls,
wherein said provisional engagement projection is engaged between said bent arm
portion and said rib wall engagement projection.

21. (New) The jointing member according to claim 1, wherein a distance from said flange
portion of said grommet to said engagement portion of said grommet is smaller than a distance

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from said head portion of said pin to said lock surface of said pin.